

induction of Mr. H. Spencer), they assume, by the consolidating force of heredity and persistent use, the aspect and power of spontaneous intuitions (or instincts) though, in reality, the evolved and laborious expansion of faculties with which, in rudiment—we know not how—the remote ancestors of those diverse peoples were aboriginally gifted. Consider, then, the current teaching consequent on the nature of this war, which, by criminal German precepts and practices, has degenerated from honourable strife, to which Britons are accustomed, into brutalised carnage. We are admonished, accordingly, to crush German trade; to oust forcibly German merchants hereafter from the arena of recognised competition and commercial intercourse. But, degraded beyond the most intensive scale of expression though Germany as a nation has become, there may yet exist those who "have not bowed unto Baal," or who have repented of that infamous deed. You cannot abrogate a nation; the force of natural evolution, of which that nation is a specialised result, is deeper than human intervention; the racial endowments of the people whom that nation embodies will persist, which enable them to resume their renewed and specialised share in the world's trading community; and their enforced disappearance from history (even were that event possible) would denude the race of one of the specific agencies with which the commercial integrity of mankind is linked. Such a process would enfeeble the economic welfare of other peoples by the forcible annulment of one of the mechanical and dynamical factors of a unified machine. Moreover, the Briton of common sense will ponder the practical problem thus : Obligations can only be discharged by means of savings ; savings can only be accumulated by engagement in trading ; and, this ground removed, the payment of indemnities—exacted by the righteously retributive justice of indignant peoples— becomes " melted into air, into thin air." But I clearly iterate that, similarly as regards individual offenders against righteousness, the German nation, as an inevitable

credential precedent to inclusion within the circle of civilised peoples, must decisively manifest their sincere contrition for their perfidies and crimes in the past, since in even the most primitive intercourse, personal, social, and commercial, an imperious and ultimate